

CHILDREN'S TRUST PARTNERSHIP BOARD - 22 MAY 2013



Present:

Councillor John Ennis (Chair)	Lead Councillor for Education and Children's Services Reading Borough Council
Councillor Ballsdon	Reading Borough Council
Councillor Vickers	Reading Borough Council
Ben Cross	RCVYS
David Seward	RCVYS - Chair
Sally Murray	NHS Berkshire West
Bridget England	NHS Berkshire
Penny Cooper	Children's and Families Manager, RHFT
Stephen Barber	Local Safeguarding Children Board - Chair
Emily Hodges	Service Transformation Officer, Reading Borough Council
Vince Barton	Development CSM Barnardo's
Andrew Brash	Business Development Manager, Barnardo's
Sarah Holland	Senior Probation Officer
Chris Wells	Volunteer Coordinator, Youth Engagement Service, Reading Borough Council
Daniel	Reading member of Youth Parliament
Ellie	Reading Youth Cabinet - Chair
Kevin McDaniel	Head of Education and Commissioning, Reading Borough Council
Jenny Quinn	Service Manager Operations, Reading Borough Council
Sarah Gee	Head of Housing, Neighbourhoods and Community Services, Reading Borough Council
Clare Priest	Project Manager - Next Generation Children's Services, Reading Borough Council
Esther Blake	Partnership Manager, Reading Borough Council

Also in attendance:

Richard Woodford Committee Services, Reading Borough Council

Apologies:

Stuart Greenfield Thames Valley Police

1. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 30 January 2013 were confirmed as a correct record.

Matters Arising

Minute 1 - Designated Doctor (Designated Nurse)

Stephen Barber, LSCB Chair, informed the Board that the appointment of the Designated Doctor was close to being confirmed and would be confirmed when finance for the post had been released. An appointment to the Designated Nurse post was about to be finalised although the post had been re-developed to cover only the west of Berkshire but would include adults as well as children, concern had therefore been raised over the capacity of the post, concerns that Stephen would be raising with health commissioners.

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AGREED: That the position be noted.

2. YOUTH CABINET UPDATE

Daniel, Reading member of the Youth Parliament, and Ellie, Chair of the Reading Youth Cabinet, gave a presentation on 'Health for Youth'.

Daniel informed the Board that the Youth Cabinet had released its manifesto the previous week and that it included details of their plans for the coming year which included a campaign on mental health. A survey had been completed in conjunction with the UK Youth Parliament in the south east and had been the largest the Youth Cabinet had ever carried out. The survey had been sent to many schools across the Reading area and had helped to identify the issues and focus the campaign. The results had shown that just under half of the people who had responded to the survey believed they had or there was a possibility that they had a mental health problem. The people surveyed also stated that they would prefer face-to-face help/contact with the issue.

On 23 November 2012 the Youth Cabinet had held a 'Health for Youth' conference at South Reading Youth and Community Centre which had included a workshop on mental health, advice to carers, in addition educating children on mental health issues had been discussed, as well as a question and answer session with some key influencers on young people's health in Reading. It had been clear at the conference that people did not realise how important mental health issues were and a number of recommendations were made including the following:

- Deliver effective, engaging and consistent workshops and lessons in schools on mental health;
- Schools should provide support sessions to parents on how to deal with mental health;
- Focus should be on face-to-face support and diagnosis;
- More effort should be put into the promotion of the services that were available.

In 2013 the Youth Cabinet intended to continue the campaign on mental health alongside a new campaign on careers advice. Meetings had been arranged with the Borough's Members of Parliament and the aim was to gain support from school governors and Head Teachers. A Treaty would then be drawn up with the aim of educating teachers and students on mental health issues, asking them to agree to set aside one day a year for mental health for seven to eleven year olds to raise awareness; the Youth Cabinet planned to hold another workshop in October 2013.

The Board discussed the presentation and agreed that the newly established Health and Wellbeing Board should consider the Youth Cabinet Manifesto on health and that a dialogue needed to be established with young people and the position monitored on an ongoing basis. It was also suggested that the Youth Cabinet should go to the private and independent schools in the Borough to discuss and raise awareness of mental health and that peer monitoring should be set up in schools so that students were trained to deal with mental health

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issues. The Board acknowledged that all the recommendations made by the Youth Cabinet should be addressed and an action plan drawn up so that they were built in to existing strategies and implementation against the action plan should be monitored.

AGREED:

- (1) That the presentation be noted;
- (2) That Daniel and Ellie be thanked for attending the meeting;
- (3) That the recommendations made by the Youth Cabinet in respect of mental health form the basis of an action plan and be included in existing strategies and implementation against the action plan monitored.

3. FULFILLING LIVES BID

Emily Hodges, Service Transformation Officer, Reading Borough Council, and Andrew Brash, Business Development Manager Barnardo's, briefed the Board on the Fulfilling Lives Bid; an opportunity to bid for a portion of £165m from the Big Lottery Fund focused on prevention services for 0 to 3 year olds.

The Fulfilling Lives: A Better Start initiative aimed to deliver a step change in preventative approaches in pregnancy and the first three years of life to improve the life chances of babies and young children. £30m to £50m would be invested in three to five areas for eight to ten years, each area would run a variety of programmes and initiatives to improve outcomes for children in three key areas of development: social and emotional development, communication and language development and nutrition. There would need to be a systems change in the way that local health, public services and the voluntary sector worked together to put prevention in early life at the heart of service delivery and practice.

All local authorities had been invited to produce an expression of interest and Reading had been one of 40 authorities that had successfully got through the expression of interest phase; 118 local authorities had applied. From this a shortlist of around 10 to 15 areas would be produced by Summer 2013, these shortlisted areas would then be invited to submit a stage two application and would be offered development grants and support, from the Social Research Unit at Dartington, to help them prepare their final proposal. Final applications would be submitted by a lead voluntary and community sector organisation, which in the case of Reading would be Barnardo's, in each of the shortlisted areas, with between three and five awards being announced by March 2014. Barnardo's were coordinating a partnership of organisations and were writing the next stage document that had to be submitted by 5 June 2013.

A core group had been identified and work was underway to build on the core purpose of the expression of interest. With regard to making changes in Reading this would include expanding access to services for families in the Borough, addressing inequalities and putting in place an overarching vision and process.

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Silos/fragmented working arrangements had been identified and there appeared to be a struggle to break down barriers. A number of outcomes had therefore been identified with the aim of breaking down barriers and identifying how providers could work together so that they were productive for the community.

The Board discussed the bid and agreed that the commissioning aspect was a key element and that all agencies/stakeholders should be engaged early.

AGREED:

- (1) That the position be noted;
- (2) That the Expression of Interest and Stage 1 Applications documents be distributed to the Board for information and input.

4. HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD AND STRATEGY

Kevin McDaniel, Head of Education and Commissioning Services, Reading Borough Council, lead a discussion on how the Board would work effectively with the Health and Wellbeing Board and the future direction of the Children's Trust.

The Health and Social Care Act 2012 provided for the transfer of public health functions from the NHS to local authorities and had taken effect from 1 April 2013. The 2012 Act required the Council to establish a Health and Wellbeing Board and to appoint a Director of Public Health. Members of the Health and Wellbeing Board and other stakeholders had considered the evidence base on Health and Wellbeing in Reading and had begun initial work to start developing an outline vision and identifying key priorities for a Health and Wellbeing Strategy in May 2012. Following a consultation exercise the final strategy had been endorsed by the Board in March 2013. The Health and Wellbeing Board would review the Strategy within the first year, once the public health function had had a chance to embed within the Council.

The Strategy included a section on how the Health and Wellbeing Board would engage with other groups, such as the Children's Trust Partnership Board, and would provide an opportunity for the Trust to decide on its role and structure and how it would benefit and meet the needs of children and young people as although there was still a statutory duty to provide a Children's Trust Board there was choice over the role and structure of the Board.

The Board discussed the position and a number of points were raised as follows:

- The Children's Trust Partnership Board should be delegated authority from the Health and Wellbeing Board to commission services;
- The membership of the Health and Wellbeing Board should include a young person;
- Work was being carried out to look at commissioning children's services although roles were still being defined and there was much to learn.

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However, the pace of change was fast and more focused work would be required;

- Work by the Audit Commission had identified that the most effective partnerships were those that had pooled budgets;
- One of the greatest challenges would be ensuring that issues affecting children and young people were captured in the agenda of the Health and Wellbeing Board;
- It was suggested that the Board should identify where it wanted to make changes and then present solutions to the Health and Wellbeing Board;
- The Board recognised the need for its members to work together to commission services for young people, to communicate clearly and to listen to what young people wanted and to lobby and influence on behalf of children and young people and to demonstrate how it could help the Health and Wellbeing Board.

Finally, Kevin agreed to submit a report to a future meeting setting out a proposal on the future format and role of the Children's Trust Partnership Board.

AGREED: That a report be submitted to a future meeting by Kevin McDaniel on the future format and role of the Board.

5. CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S PLAN (CYPP) ANNUAL REVIEW AND REVIEW OF PRIORITIES

Esther Blake, Partnership Manager, Reading Borough Council, reported on the 41 specific targets included in the Children and Young People's Plan 2011/14 for the fourth quarter of 2012/13.

Esther informed the Board that the majority of the indicators for the fourth quarter had followed the same trend as they had done throughout 2012/13 although there were concerns over the low percentage of parents that were discharged successfully from treatment for drug addiction; further information on this target would be obtained for inclusion in the Annual Review. Concern was also expressed over the percentage of medicals carried out within timescales for Looked After Children and the percentage of objectives reached for children with multi-agency Common Assessment Frameworks (CAFs) and that in some cases data and commentary had not been provided. The outcomes for 2012/13, including comments on the targets would be included in the Annual Review which would be available for the July 2013 meeting.

Sarah Gee suggested that the target monitoring report needed to be reviewed so that the data could be checked, an assessment made as to whether the right thing was being measured and new areas to monitor suggested, she suggested that a Sub-Group be set up including herself; Ben Cross also agreed to be a member of the Sub-Group. However, it was recognised that if trends were to be identified it would be unwise to make major changes to the report.

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AGREED:

- (1) That the Annual Review of the Children and Young People's Plan which would include the outcomes for 2012/13 and comments on the targets be submitted to the next meeting;
- (2) That Esther Blake speak to Sarah Gee about a more detailed review of the targets within the CYPP carried out by a Sub-Group including Sarah Gee and Ben Cross.

6. POLICY ON SUPPORT TO CHILDREN OF PRISONERS

Sarah Holland, Senior Probation Officer - Partnerships, Thames Valley Probation, submitted a report on prisoner families and the response to the National Offender Management Service (NOMS)/Barnardo's questions.

The report stated that it was unknown how many children were affected by the impact of a parent, carer or close family member being in prison or at risk of custody in Reading. This was because no single agency had responsibility for the oversight of these families and there were no standardised systems of collecting data. It had been estimated that nationally 170,000 children were affected each year by the imprisonment of a parent or carer. The impact of a parent being in prison on a child or young person was significant and it had been suggested that it was similar to a bereavement.

The risks for these unknown children were considerable with an estimated 30% of these children experiencing mental health issues; for boys an increased likelihood of future offending with estimates being twice as likely to offend than their peers and only 5% of children with a mother in prison remaining in their own home.

The report explained that since 2006 a number of activities had taken place in Reading with close partnership working between the Thames Valley Partnership, the Council, Reading Young Offenders Institution (YOI) and Thames Valley Probation including the following:

- Six workshops had been delivered to Council staff by Thames Valley Partnership, Reading YOI and Probation commissioned by the Parenting Commissioner, to raise awareness of staff;
- A Family matters working group had met quarterly at Reading YOI to work towards linking prisons and communities together;
- Five Family Days per year were run at Reading YOI;
- Each Children's Centre had a Working with Prisoner's Families resource pack that had been developed by Thames Valley Partnership;
- All CATs had received an electronic copy of the 'Oxfordshire Guidelines for Working with Children who had a family member in prison'.

The report stated that a number of gaps remained in supporting the children of prisoner's families locally including systematically identifying children with a parent or carer in prison and ensuring a clear pathway to support for children and families of prisoners. There were a number of challenges in achieving this -

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and this was part of a wider national systemic issue. In the next 12 to 18 months the role of the Probation Service would change and so a champion for this issue needed to be agreed.

The Board agreed that there was a need to work together to identify gaps and to raise awareness of the issue and recognised that one of the key issues was identifying the children and young people who were affected by someone in prison.

Stephen Barber, Chair of the Local Safeguarding Children Board, stated that the person in custody could be anywhere in the country which was one of the reasons it was difficult to identify the children and young people affected. However, the Prison Service should be able to identify where a family was as they would hold the information. Stephen said that this needed to be taken forward nationally and agreed to take it forward as Chair of the LSCB.

AGREED:

- (1) That the report be noted;
- (2) That Sarah Holland continue to prioritise this work with the Family Matters Group and look to establish a local system of identifying children and young people where a parent or carer was in prison;
- (3) That Head of Service responsible for Early Help provision within the Council champion this work;
- (4) That Stephen Barber, Chair of the LSCB, raise the issue nationally of the Prison Service identifying families who were affected by someone in prison.

7. SEXUAL HEALTH MEETING FEEDBACK

Further to Minute 1 of the meeting held on 28 November 2012, Esther Blake, Partnership Manager, Reading Borough Council, and Kevin McDaniel, Head of Education and Commissioning Services, Reading Borough Council, submitted a copy of the minutes of a partnership meeting that had been held on 10 January 2013 to discuss Sexual Health provision in schools.

The meeting had identified that some excellent practice was taking place but it needed to be advertised more widely and the lack of knowledge about what provision took place in schools was a hindrance. Work was therefore being carried out to identify gaps and it was suggested that schools should be asked to supply information on what they were providing and a report be submitted to a future Board meeting.

AGREED:

- (1) That the position be noted;

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- (2) That Kevin McDaniel ask schools to supply information on the provision they made for sexual health services and a report be submitted to a future meeting.

8. OTHER BUSINESS

AGREED: That Councillor Ennis be thanked for his time and the energy he had put into Chairing the Board.

9. ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

The Board noted agenda items for future meetings as follows:

- Innovations work update;
- Early Help Strategy;
- Ofsted Inspection Improvement Action Plan;
- Autumn Workshop.

10. DATE AND TIME OF FUTURE MEETINGS

AGREED: That the Board meeting dates for 2013-14 be noted as follows:

- Wednesday 17 July 2013 (4 - 6pm, Tilehurst A)
- Tuesday 1 October 2013 (9.30 am - 1.00 pm, joint workshop with Local Strategic Partnership, venue tbc)
- Wednesday 27 November 2013 (4 - 6pm)
- Wednesday 29 January 2014 (4 - 6pm)
- March 2014 - Spring workshop, date tbc
- Wednesday 21 May 2014 (4 - 6pm)
- Wednesday 23 July 2014 (4 - 6pm)

(The meeting started at 4.00pm and finished at 6.02 pm).